

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 00779 161350Z

47-40

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

RSC-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 SP-02 /046 W

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R 161245Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO USMISSION USUN NY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6351

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 0779

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL STATUS FOR HINDI LANGUAGE

1. THE FIRST WORLD HINDI CONVENTION AT NAGPUR JANUARY 11-13 WAS INAUGURATED BY PRIME MINISTER GANDHI AND CHAIRED BY MAURITIAN PRIME MINISTER RANGOOLAM. THE THRUST OF MRS. GANDHI'S SPEECH ECHOED BY OTHER POLITICIANS AND FOREIGN DELEGATES WAS ON ACQUIRING INTERNATIONAL STATUS FOR HINDI, ALTHOUGH MRS. GANDHI SAID HINDI SHOULD FIRST ACHIEVE GENERAL ACCEPTANCE AS THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE WITHIN INDIA ITSELF.

2. COMMENT:WE HAVE NOT PROBED THE MEA TO DETERMINE IF INDIA INTENDS TO LAUNCH A HINDI INITIATIVE. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR SUCH A MOVE AMONG INDIA'S DIPLOMATS, SINCE MANY OF THEM HAVE THEIR OWN TROUBLES WITH HINDI. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, BE CURIOUS TO KNOW IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY CORRIDOR TALK AT THE UN ON THIS SUBJECT. IT OCCURS TO US THAT ONE METHOD OF STRENGTHENING THE CASE FOR HINDI NATIONALLY WOULD BE TO HAVE IT ACCEPTED FIRST AS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE.

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PAGE 02 NEW DE 00779 161350Z

SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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